
SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF MAY 1, 2000

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor James Edwards called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and Clerk Nancy Marchiando called the roll. Those Alderpersons present were: Candy Smith, Alan Bauer, Patrick Balentyne, Cheryl Maness, Keven Dahl, Michael Chambon and James Huntley. Alderperson Pam Blickem was absent. Seven Alderpersons were present and one was absent.

INVOCATION

Jim Elliott of the Harvest Time Fellowship Church gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Edwards announced that a Proclamation for Mental Health Week would be added to the agenda.

Motion

Alderperson Balentyne moved to approve the agenda with the addition and Alderperson Huntley seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderpersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

Becky Haish, 621 South Cross Street, Sycamore, requested assistance from the City of a problem with a neighboring property owner. She described the problems that have occurred and said she would appreciate any assistance the City could provide.

Administrator Nicklas stated that he was not certain as to what the City could do but that the Police Department, City Engineer and the Community Service Officer would consult and write a letter as to what problems the City could give assistance.

Marcia Raymond, 622 South Cross Street, expressed thanks to the City for any help that can be given. She stated that she knew the property could look better because it did when a former owner Nancy Marchiando took care of the property.

Pat Cardenelli, 612 South Cross Street, expressed thanks to Lyle Doty for his assistance with a water problem. Mrs. Cardenelli further stated that the traffic at the corner of South Cross and DeKalb Avenue is bad and will only get worse with road construction

traffic. She talked about cars speeding through the traffic light and about the speed at which cars travel on South Cross Street.

Administrator Nicklas stated there would be a lot of traffic with the road construction and would ask the Police Department to patrol that area for speeders.

Frieda Wittrock, 619 South Cross Street, stated she thought a speed limit has needed to be posted on South Cross Street for a long time and stated that the outside area of the building at 806 DeKalb Avenue has been a mess for some time. She said that when the restaurant wanted to go into that building the City told them they had to put in a new parking lot and she asked why the clinic was not made to do the same thing. She asked why these rules were not enforced.

Pat Cardenelli added that the tenants of the building were not the problem, but the owners.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the minutes of the regular City Council meeting of April 17, 2000.

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to approve the minutes of April 17, 2000 and Aldersperson Smith seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Payment of Bills for May 1, 2000.

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve the bills of May 1, 2000 in the amount of \$828,634.92 and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS, PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND BILLS

- A. Proclamation - Brain Tumor Awareness Week
- B. Proclamation - Meal for the Children of the World Week
- C. Proclamation - Mental Health Week

Mayor Edwards read and approved the proclamations.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Administrator Nicklas - announced that Governor George Ryan would be visiting Sycamore on Thursday, May 4, 2000 at approximately 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. at Sycamore High School. He stated the Governor was visiting areas of the state that have received funds from the Illinois First program.

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty - presented an activity report for the past month as he had been absent at the last Council meeting.

Treasurer - Ken Mundy - presented the financial report and explained an additional report he had prepared for the Council outlining a pattern of the history of revenues and expenses for the City during the past five years. He credited Administrator Nicklas for the time and effort he spent on obtaining a good bond rating for the City.

Fire Chief - Gene Ege - reported that the Fire Department had received 64 incident calls during the past two weeks. The incident calls included 44 EMS related calls and 25 fire related. They saw 60 patients and transported 28. In addition he reported on the fire at North School and said that the use of accelerates had been ruled out but the fire was still under investigation.

Police Department - Patrick Solar - reported the department item was on the agenda.

Water Supt. - Ebe Smith - announced that fire hydrants would be flushed during the next two weeks.

City Clerk - Nancy Marchiando - made a presentation of the first City Web page and coffee mugs and introduced intern Peter Krumins who showed the web page to the Council and others present.

Aldersperson Huntley stated that the Pumpkin Festival was interested in linking with the City page and Administrator Nicklas added that the Council meeting agendas and minutes would also be available on the Website. Aldersperson Maness added a word of

caution that just a few should know how to change information of the site. Intern Krumins answered that there is a code to access to get into the system.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance - Alan Bauer - no report.

Ordinance - James Huntley - stated that the Resolutions and Ordinances were on the agenda.

Streets & Walks - Cheryl Maness - no report.

Sewer & Water - Patrick Balentyne - no report.

Police & Fire - Keven Dahl - no report.

PUBLIC HEARING

None.

ORDINANCES AND AGREEMENTS

None.

RESOLUTIONS

- A. Resolution including compensation paid under an Internal Revenue Service Code Section 125 Plan as Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund earnings.

Administrator Nicklas stated that employees would receive credit for earnings to count towards retirement.

Motion

Aldersperson Dahl moved to approve the resolution and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATIONS

- A. Consideration of a proposal from Siefert & Co. to perform the annual audit for the City of Sycamore.

Administrator Nicklas report that the proposal was a stock contract from Siepert & Company who performed last year's audit. He stated they had done a good job especially with the extra help they provide to the City. He thought the City was in good shape and the auditor should not have too many difficulties this year. He reported that Siepert had indicated an amount of \$22,500 for this year's audit.

Administrator Nicklas said he was reasonably sure that Siepert's price could not be beat but asked the Council if they would like to send Request for Proposals. Alderperson Dahl felt that the City should go out for bids as a courtesy to other businesses in the City.

Treasurer Mundy praised the spirit of cooperation from the Siepert firm and said that the City has had a solid working relationship with the firm. He suggested that we go another year with the firm, as the firm knows where we have been and where we are because of Dennis Hildebrandt and he advised that the City stay with Siepert & Company.

Alderperson Chambon thought Mr. Mundy's points were good to take into consideration.

- B. Consideration of a Police Department recommendation to hire one part-time telecommunicator.

Administrator Nicklas said that the budget had authorized one full-time position and he was recommending that one full-time and one part-time telecommunicator positions be filled and he was requesting authorization at that time.

Motion

Alderperson Maness moved to approve the positions and Alderperson Huntley seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderpersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

- C. Consideration of a Police Department report on the cost of rebuilding a marked squad car.

Administrator Nicklas presented some information for the Council and had Commander Pat Solar continue with the explanation. He reviewed the estimate for the rebuilding. Alderperson Bauer stated that he was impressed with the list of repairs and asked Commander Solar as to the length of the warranty and Commander Solar

said there was a two-year warranty. Alderperson Chambon asked if an extended warranty could be purchased and Commander Solar said he would check.

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to proceed with the rebuilding of the Caprice Squad car and to rebuild only one at a time. Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

- D. Consideration of a water department recommendation to award a contract for the installation of a generator at Well #7.

Administrator Nicklas stated that only one bid had been received from Powertron in the amount of \$39,907.00. This amount was under the budgeted amount of \$50,000 and he recommended going with the bid. Aldersperson Chambon stated he had a problem with approving only one bid and asked why there were not other bids. Mayor Edwards asked why do we not send out bids to 100 companies. Administrator Nicklas said that purchasing equipment from companies out of state involves shipping costs (additional money to add to purchase price). He said a very important issue is service and that when equipment breaks down the City needs people here within a half-hour to one hour and it would not make sense to go to people out of state.

Motion

Aldersperson Dahl moved to give the bid to Powertron and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye except for Aldersperson Chambon who voted nay. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Edwards announced new appointments for the Plan Commission, Library Board and Police Pension Board. The appointments to the Plan Commission were Alan Bauer, Bill Davey and George Bridgewater. The appointments to the Library Board were Rosalie Hewitt, John McBride, Paul Crawford and Mary Kay Shipley. The appointments to the Police Pension Board were Keith Snyder and Robert Rosenberg. Mayor Edwards stated that there still remained one appointment to the Plan and Library Boards. He further stated that he was waiting to make appointments to the Tourism and Historical Boards until it is certain as to the plans of each of groups. Mayor Edwards stated that the Economic Development Commission's purpose is no longer valid and he would report back at the next meeting. Aldersperson Maness asked about the Human Relations Committee and Mayor Edwards stated that the committee is another one to consider as its purpose has also changed. He said he had appointments to make to the Fire Pension Board and Zoning Board of Appeals and would make the appointments later.

Motion

Aldersperson Balentyne moved to approve the appointments as presented and Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion

Aldersperson Balentyne moved to go into closed session at 8:55 p.m. and Aldersperson Chambon seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Motion

Aldersperson Balentyne moved to return to open session at 9:55 p.m. and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Aldersperson Balentyne moved to return to open session at 9:56 p.m. and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Approve:

Mayor - James S. Edwards

Attest:

City Clerk - Nancy S. Marchiando